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Message Text

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64
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05

MCT-01 SY-05 DHA-02 OPR-02 /082 W
---------- 014925
R 291927Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2528
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 4136

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, AR, UY
SUBJ: TERRORIST ORGANIZATION BROKEN UP

REF: MONTEVIDEO 4097

1. SUMMARY. ON A NATIONAL RADIO AND TV HOOKUP THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 28,THE JOINT FORCES ANNOUNCED THE CAPTURE OF 62 SUBVERSIVES BELONGING TO THE PARTY FOR THE VICTORY OF THE PEOPLE (PVP), AN ORGANIZATION MADE UP FROM MEMBERS OF THE ANARCHIST OPR 33 AND THE WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY FRONT (FRT). THE COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT THE BACK OF THE ORGANIZATION WAS BROKEN WITH THE ARREST ON OCTOBER 23 OF 14 TERRORISTS AND THE CAPTURE OF A QUANTITY OF PROPAGANDA MATERIALS AND SOME ARMS. THE ANNOUNCEMENT LISTED TERRORISTS ACTS COMMITTED OVER THE YEARS BY THE ORGANIZATION IN URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA. ACTIVITIES IN THE LATTER COUNTRY INCLUDED KIDNAPPINGS WHICH RESULTED IN OBTAINING LARGE SUMS OF MONEY, SOME OF WHICH WAS USED IN EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE FOR A PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN. THE DETAINEES ACCORDING TO THE RELEASE, SAID THAT THEY HAD INITIATED FALSE CHARGES AGAINST ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED WHEN IN FACT, THEY WERE INFILTRATING BACK INTO URUGUAY WITH PLANS FOR ASSASSINATIONS AND SABOTAGE. FURTHER INFORMATION
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IS TO BE RELEASED OCTOBER 29. AS THEY APPEARED ON TV, THE

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14 MOST RECENTLY ARRESTED SUBVERSIVES APPEARED TO BE PHYSICALLY WELL. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A 30 MINUTE NATIONAL RADIO AND TV HOOKUP ON THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 28, AND TO AN AFTERNOON PRESS CONFERENCE, THE JOINT FORCES ANNOUNCED THE CAPTURE OF 62 MEMBERS OF THE PARTY FOR THE VICTORY OF THE PEOPLE (PVP), A GROUP FORMED BY MEMBERS OF OPR-33 AND THE WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY FRONT (FRT). THAT WHICH FOLLOWS COMES FROM THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED TO ALL THE MEDIA, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WIRE SERVICES AND THE FOREIGN PRESS WHO CAME FROM BUENOS AIRES FOR THE STORY.

3. URUGUAYAN AUTHORITIES, OVER A PERIOD OF SEVERAL MONTHS HAD BEEN ARRESTING MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP. THEY SAY THEY EFFECTIVELY BROKE THE ORGANIZATION OCTOBER 23 WHEN THEY CAPTURED 14 TERRORISTS AND CONFISCATED A LARGE QUANTITY OF PROPAGANDA MATERIALS, INCLUDING MIMEOGRAPH MACHINES, VEHICLES USED TO DISTRIBUTE PROPAGANDA, AND SOME WEAPONS. THE 14 DETAINEES INCLUDED SERGIO RUBEN LOPEZ BURGOS, 24 YEARS OLD; SARA RITA MENDEZ LOMPODIO, SINGLE, 32 YEARS OLD; ASILU SONIA MACEIRO PEREZ, DIVORCED, 47 YEARS OLD; MARIA ELBA RAMA MOLLA, SINGLE, 22 YEARS OLD; ANA INEZ QUADROS HERRERA, DIVORCED, 31 YEARS OLD; GASTON ZINA FIGUEREDO, SINGLE, 21 YEARS OLD; CECILIA IRENE GAYOSO JAUREGUI, SINGLE, 20 YEARS OLD; MARIA MONICA SOLINO PLATERO, SINGLE, 21 YEARS OLD; ARIEL ROGELIO SOTO LOUREIRO, SINGLE, 23 YEARS OLD; ANA MARIA SALVO SANCHEZ, MARRIED, 22 YEARS OLD; ALICIA RAQUEL CADENAS RAVELA, SINGLE, 26 YEARS OLD; EDELWEIS ZAHN FREIRE DE ANDES, MARRIED, 34 YEARS OLD; VICTOR

HUGO LUBIAN PELAEZ
, ARGENTINE, MARRIED, 24 YEARS OLD;
MARTA PETRIDES DE LUBIAN, MARRIED, 22 YEARS OLD. AS THEY APPEARED ON TV, THE 14 APPEARED TO BE PHYSICALLY WELL.

4. THE COMMUNIQUE CHARGES THAT MEMBERS OF THIS ORGANIZATION HAD A LONG HISTORY OF PAST TERRORIST ACTIONS IN BOTH URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA, INCLUDING KIDNAPPINGS, ASSASSINATIONS, BOMBINGS, ARSON

AND THE KILLING OF FIVE POLICEMEN IN ARGENTINA. THEY WERE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BOMBINGS WHICH OCCURRED IN PUNTA DEL ESTE IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR (SEE MONTEVIDEO 120 AND 172). WHEN THEY FLED TO ARGEMQINA THEY KIDNAPPED A NUMBER OF WEALTHY MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND THUS EARNED SOME $10 MILLION. THIS MONEY WAS USED NOT ONLY TO FINANCE TERRORIST ACTIVITIES BUT ALSO IN AN INTERNATIONAL

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PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT URUGUAY ABROAD. THIS
CAMPAIGN INCLUDED PAID ADS IN BOTH THE EUROPEAN AND
AMERICAN PRESS. THE $2 MILLION PUT INTO THIS CAMPAIGN
WAS SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING EITHER PAID ADS OR IMPRESSIONS
BASED ON INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN PRINTED IN,
TIME, BUSINESS WEEK, THE NEW YORK TIMES, VANGUARDIA
OF BARCELONA AND CASA DE LAS AMERICAS, A CUBAN PUBLICATION.
PLANNED, BUT NOT CARRIED OUT PRIOR TO THE ARRESTS,
WAS CONTACT WITH THE WASHINGTON POST WRITERS WHO BROKE
THE WATERGATE STORY, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID.

5. WORKING FROM THEIR ARGENTINE BASE THESE GROUPS
BEGAN TO INFILTRATE PEOPLE BACK INTO URUGUAY. THREE
WERE ARRESTED SOME MONTHS AGO; 23 MORE WERE PICKED UP
IN JUNE AND JULY AND ANOTHER 22 IN SEPTEMBER. THE
ROUNDUP OF THE 14 ON OCTOBER 23 COMPLETED THE ACTION
AND BROKE UP THE ORGANIZATION. PRIOR TO RETURNING TO
URUGUAY THESE PEOPLE SAID THEY INITIATED FALSE CHARGES
AGAINST ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY
HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED WHEN, IN FACT, THEY WERE RETURNING
WITH PLANS FOR ASSASSINATIONS AND SABOTAGE.

6. COMMENT: WE REITERATE THAT THE ABOVE IS ACCORDING
TO THE JOINT FORCES AS RELEASED IN A COMMUNIQUE AND TO
THE MEDIA. FURTHER INFORMATION IS TO BE RELEASED
OCTOBER 29. WHILE WE DO NOT HAVE THE NAMES OF URUGUAYANS
WHO WERE REPORTEDLY KIDNAPPED IN ARGENTINA SOME MONTHS
AGO (SEE REFTEL), THE QUADROS GIRL, WHO NOW REAPPEARS
AS ONE OF THE 14 PRISONERS, WAS EARLIER REPORTED AMONG
THAT GROUP. IN FACT, CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY RESULTED
FROM EFFORTS BY HER FAMILY (HER FATHER BEING A FORMER
URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR) TO DETERMINE HER WHEREABOUTS SHORTLY
AFTER THE REPORTED DISAPPEARANCE IN JULY. THE DEPARTMENT
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WILL RECALL THAT A DAUGHTER OF THE LATE EX-SENATOR ZELMAR
MICHELINI ALSO REPORTEDLY DISAPPEARED IN BUENOS AIRES
AT THE SAME TIME. NO MENTION OF HER, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN
MADE.

7. EMBASSY COMMENT AND ANALYSIS WILL FOLLOW AFTER NEXT
CABLE REPORTING TODAY'S BROADCAST.
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